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RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

—OF THE—

SELECTMEN

—OF THE—

TOWN OF BRENTWOOD

AND REPORT OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBUARY 18,

1870.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE LIBRARY

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen Charge Themselves with the following, viz.

Received from the town treasurer of last year,		$196 59
"	Proceeds from the sale of Town Farm,	2500 00
"	from Orin Sanborn, Taxes and interest for 1868	476 32
"	" D. C. Bean, Collector,	4389 47
"	" the town of Plaistow,	16 55
"	for Personal property sold at Farm,	162 54
"	from State, Dividend and Literary money,	368 63
"	" County, for support of paupers,	117 50
"	" Interest on notes,	41 25
"	" Hired money,	1225 00
	Sum total,	$9493 85

The Selectmen Credit Themselves with the following.—

Paid	State Tax,	$1476 00
	County Tax,	877 69
	Isaac Rowell note and interest,	612 59
	Sarah Morrill " "	474 10
	Sarah Sinclair " "	146 78
	John Kelsey "	300 00
	" " interest on note	88 65
	J. F. Robinson note, and interest	1046 69
	G. W. Swain " "	262 08
	E. G. Flanders " "	100 50
	Laura Smith for interest on note	39 50
	J. Jewell note and interest,	810 25
	Daniel J, Kendal note and interest,	254 00

Paid	E. A. Batchelder note and interest,.....	106 00
	J. S. Willey interest on note,.....	18 00
	E. T. Robinson " "	10 00
	Eph. Robinson " "	22 50
	D. R. Fellows " "	19 16
	J. W. Dudley " "	18 00
	W. M. Lane " "	74 16
	Committee for selling Town Farm,.....	17 25
	John Brown for drawing off and printing town accounts,	25 00
	For supplies at farm.....	17 15
	The town of Exeter for supplies for Mrs Dudley and medical attendance,. 68' and 69'.	53 95
	Dolly Waite's funeral expenses.....	9 50
	For transient paupers,.....	2 75
	A. J. Hoyt for printing posters.....	1 25
	For recording deed,.....	80
	J. M. Sanborn, for services as auctioneer.....	2 50
	For taking care Hall.....	1 00
	For advise in pauper case,.....	1 00
	Moses W. Caverly for returning births and deaths....	8 00
	" " for medical attendance,.....	6 00
	George E. Lane for Books and Revenue Stamps,.....	9 34
	A. W. Dudley for superintending schools,.....	10 00
	School District No. 1, H. P. Robinson, Committee,....	216 00
	" " No. 2, Orin Sanborn, "	193 36
	" " No. 3, west end, G. E. Robinson, Com....	116 21
	" " No. 3 east end, D. Smith, Committee	96 21
	" " No. 4, E. J. Gordon, "	132 27
	W. Copp school tax.....	1 20
	For boarding Mrs. Grant,.....	81 00
	D. Frank Fellows for repairing bridge,.....	10 37
	John S. Stevens for damage on plow and bridge railing,	4 50
	For Timber and Plank to repair bridges,.....	105 32
	For gravelling highway,.....	8 13
	Benj. F. LaBree for services as Town Clerk,.....	16 00
	" for recording births and deaths,.....	9 00
	" for Postage and stationary,.....	1 10
	For labor on Bridges,.....	72 24
	D. C. Bean for services as Collector and Constable,.	49 56
	W. G. Hook for land to widen roads, and moving wall	2 50
	Abatements of different individuals Poll and other taxes '68	66 13
	" " " " " " '69	102 57

Paid	Robert Rowe school house tax,.....	50 00
	Nonresident highway tax worked out in 1868.....	46 72
	" " " " 1869	73 33
	J. B. T. Graves services as Selectman,.....	12 00
	" " as Treasurer,.....	12 00
	" to Exeter five times on town business...	5 00
	" to Notingham on town business.....	2 50
	" time and expense to pay State tax,.....	4 00
	" to Epping twice.....	2 00
	" Recording births and deaths,.....	2 00
	" Enrolling Militia,.....	1 00
	" Drawing off Town accounts,.....	5 00
	C. C. S. Stevens services as Selectman,.....	12 00
	" Recording births and deaths,.....	2 00
	" Enrolling Militia,.....	1 00
	" Sheep killed by dogs,.....	8 00
	" Bridge timber,.....	7 00
	Russell H. Fellows services as Selectman,.....	12 00
	" Recording births and deaths,.....	2 00
	" Enrolling militia,.....	1 00
	" Postage Stamps,.....	35
	" Time and expense to hire money,.	6 00
Balance due on town farm,.....		1000 00
Cash in the Selectmens hands,.....		21 14
		$9493 85

JOSEPH B. T. GRAVES,
CHARLES C. S. STEVENS,
RUSSELL H. FELLOWS,
} Selectmen of Brentwood.

We the undersigned having examined the selectmen's accounts as exhibited to us and find they have charged themselves with $9493 85

They discharge this amount with proper vouches in the sum of 9472 71

Leaving a balance in their hands of 21 14

In the hands of D. C. Bean collector, 868 54

Due from Orin Sanborn collector for 1868 21 45

BENJAMIN VEASEY,
E. G. FLANDERS,
JAMES P. THYNG,
} Auditors.

Brentwood, Feb, 18, 1870.

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN FEB., 18, 1870.

Notes and interest due different individuals	$9272 90
Due School District No 3	11 00

AVAILABLE RESOURCES OF THE TOWN.

Due from the Goverment,	$1680 00
" Orin Sanborn Collector for '68	21 45
" D. C. Bean, " '69	868 54
Due on Farm and Oxen,	1265 00
Due for Personal Property,	29 19
In the hands of the Treasurer,	21 14
SUM TOTAL,	$3885 32
The Selectmen have paid on the old debt	2417 77
The indebtedness of the town Feb. 18, 1870 is	$5398 58

JOSEPH B. T. GRAVES,
CHARLES C. S. STEVENS,
RUSSELL H. FELLOWS,
} SELECTMEN OF BRENTWOOD

REPORT

OF THE

Superintending School Committee.

for the

TOWN OF BRENTWOOD.

1869–70.

Your committee in preparing his annual report, is gratified in being able to assure you, that most of the schools have been under the care of able and experienced teachers, and that all have made a very commendable degree of progress.

Quite a number of the teachers have taught in town before; one or two a number of years, in one case at least, your committee felt a little embarrassed, (not to say bashfull,) in being obliged to examine the school of a teacher who for several years taught his young ideas how to shoot; and in fact laid the foundation for what education he afterwards acquired.

It is my opinion that we do not value the services of our older and more experienced teachers highly enough,

In the higher schools and academies of our land, the services of a good teacher are sometimes engaged for a life time; and why should not we secure them in our district schools, your committee for one cannot hear with patience those Innovators who frequently inquire if it is not about time to make a change.

During the year your committee has thought it advisable to make changes in the text books used in the schools; and has introduced Guyot's Geographys and Hilliard's Readers. In the case of the Geographys the necessity for a change was to obvious to require a mention; the old books being wholly out of date.

In exchanging the readers your committee did not take into account so much the necessity of a change, as the desirability to have a uniform course throughout the town. He found in one of the smallest schools for instance not less than three different kinds of readers, besides several copies of Mother Goose (an excellent work by the way, but not exactly the thing for a school book) in use for primers. Now it can be seen by any one that if a

school uses three different kinds of readers, the teacher is obliged to have at least twice as many classes in reading as she ought to have, and can consequently devote only half as much time to each pupil as she could if there was a uniform course used.

Taking this view of the matter he decided to have such a course throughout the town, and thought it about as easy for all to exchange for a new and desirable book, as for one half to exchange for the book the other half used, which besides being out of date never had much about it to recommend it. In some other departments of study as many different kinds of text books are used as in reading, and it is to be hoped that my successor will make some improvements in regard to them.

I will now make some remarks relative to the progress, and appearance of the several schools in town.

DISTRICT NO. 1

The first two terms of this school were taught by Miss Sarah E Pervere.

Miss Pervere is a teacher of considerable experience, and has taught the same school before. Her school was very quiet and orderly; and the scholars made a good deal of improvement. Miss Pervere got an idea that the parents in the district did not take much interest in her school, she said that she had hardly a visit from a parent during the whole two terms, this is one great fault in all of our schools, there is nothing more encouraging to a teacher, or a greater incentive to study among the scholars, than frequent visits from parents.

The winter term in this district was taught by Mr. Daniel H. Rowe. Mr Rowe is a gentleman of large experiance as a teacher, and is one of those practical men of which we would that there were more.

Your committee was away from town when the term commenced, and most of the time while it was in progress, but was informed by Mr. Brown who had charge of the schools during his absence, that Mr. Rowe's school was all that could be desired.

His examination showed a good deal of improvement particularly in reading.

It is in my opinion that there were some as good readers in Mr. Rowe's school, as in any school of the same grade in the state.

DISTRICT NO. 2

The Spring and Summer term in this district were taught by Miss Abbie M. Robie. We have seldom visited a more orderly school than was Miss Robie's. She manœuvred her scholars more like a company of well drilled troops, than like a parcel of school children. In fact if I were to find any fault with her school it would be that a little to much stress was

laid upon mere points of order; the assembling and disbandment of classes in precisely such a form &c.

Perhaps it is a little dangerous for me to say this as most of the schools are a little at fault the other way.

The school while under Miss Robie's charge made a very good degree of progress.

The winter term was taught by Miss Annie S. French. Miss French is an experienced teacher, and Mr. Brown reports that she gave entire satisfaction to both himself, and to all in the district.

Your Committee visited the school near its close, and was very well pleased with its appearance. In teaching Geography, Miss French introduced Map drawings, and was able to exhibit some very creditable drawings as the work of her pupils.

DISTRICT NO. 3. (West Division).

The first term of this school was taught by Miss Mary E. Trickey. This was Miss Trickey's first experience as a teacher, and judging from the success in this instance, I should say that she had plenty of encouragement to continue in the profession. Her school was quite small the smallest in town; and her school room the poorest, yet its extreme neatness, and the good appearance, and prompt recitations of the scholars, made it a pleasure to visit the school.

The term was commenced by Miss S. L. Robinson. But Miss Robinson accepted a call to a better position, and the school was finished by Miss Trickey.

East Division.

Both terms of this school were taught by Miss M. A. Smith. It is hardly necessary for me to say any thing in regard to Miss Smith as a teacher. She has a reputation in this district which no words of mine can add to, or take from; and it is with feelings of regret that I say the least thing disparaging to her management, still I could not but think if she had used the birch with as salutary an effect upon the backs of one or two of her larger scholars, as she once did upon the back of your committee, in his younger days, her school would have appeared to rather better advantage.

It is to be hoped that Miss Smith has not joined those who have rejected that healthy scriptural injunction, "Spare the rod and spoil the child". Miss Smith is one of those who gains the love of nearly ali her pupils, and perhaps tries to govern on that principle: but there are some children in my opinion upon whom love is thrown away. The school while under her charge made a good deal of improvement.

During the year the citizens of this district have taken one

long step ahead; they have united the two divisions of the district; have torn down the two old and unsightly edifices; and the foundation is already laid, and the contract let for a new building, at the centre of the district to be ready for use the first of June.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

The two terms of school in this district were taught by Miss Julia L. Cram. Miss Cram is a teacher whose services we cannot prize to highly. She is in the opinion of your committee a model teacher. Her school was one of the best in town, and in fact appeared as well as any I ever visited.

In closing this report, although I do not wish to meddle with the private affairs of the citizens of any district, I shall make a few suggestions which may be taken for what they are worth.

Although most of our School houses are provided with proper heating apparatus, and sufficiently ventilated, I have not seen a Thermometer in a single one: now, if there is one place above all others where a Thermometer is most needed it is in a schoolroom. A Thermometer costs only about a dollar; and if properly heeded, and an equable temperature kept in the school-room, more than fifty; yes a hundred times that amount (if it can be reckoned in dollars and cents.) can be saved in colds and fevers.

I have also found nearly all of the schools unfurnished with outline Maps; and those that are supplied have those that are so sadly out of date that they are almost worse than none. Just think of teaching your children Geography from a map of the United States, which represents the States as extending only a few hundred miles beyond the Mississippi; and which represents the Indian Territory as extending from Texas to British Columbia; as an adjunct to the study of United States History, such a map might answer a good purpose; but it is hardly the thing to illustrate modern Geography with.

I would also suggest that each district furnish one or more chairs, or other proper seats for visitors. Your committee was obliged in all of his visits to either take the only chair the schoolroom contained, (thereby causing the teacher to stand during the whole of his visit) or else to take a seat with the scholars. Perhaps the absense of proper seats is what prevents parents from visiting the schools more frequently.

As you have been reminded for several years of the indispensibility of an unabridged dictionary in each school, it may uot be out of place for me to say that I have not seen one as yet in either schoolroom.

ARTHUR W. DUDLEY, Sup. School Committee.

Dis.	Taught by	Length Weeks.	No. of Boys.	No of Girls	Salery of Teachers.
No. 1	Miss S. E. Pervere.	19	19	19	$28 00 Per Mo.
"	Mr. D. H.Rowe.	10 3-5	23	19	42 00 "
No. 2.	Miss A. M. Robie.				
"	" A. L. French.	14	33	18	30 00 "
No. 3. East.	" M. A. Smith.	21	9	14	
No. 3 West.	" M. E. Trickey.	18	9	12	14 50 "
No. 4	" J. L. Cram.	25	9	17	22 00 "